

Student Name:

Date:

APOSTROPHE REVIEW

There are THREE proper uses of APOSTROPHES

1. to form the possessive case of nouns and some pronouns
2. to form a contraction and indicate where letters or numerals have been omitted.
3. to form some plurals (like numerals, letters, symbols and words used as words)

Example:

Possessive:

- 1a. Sandra's boat will leave the dock at two
- 1b. This book was everyone's favorite.

Contractions:

- 2a. I'm very excited about the winter dance.
- 2b. I was born in '62 and think that the '80s have the best dance music.

Plurals

- 3a. The product of two 4's is twice the sum of four 2's.
- 3b. Sue notices that the word "Mississippi" has four i's, four s's and two p's.
- 3c. Use \$'s before amounts of money like \$15.00
- 3d. The composition contains many first person pronouns like my's and us's.

Student Name:

Date:

POSSESSIVE NOUNS

This apostrophe shows that one thing is “owned” by another.

To check if your word calls for a possessive apostrophe, turn the phrase around to make it an “of the...” phrase. Sentences that call for an “**of the...**” phrase need a possessive apostrophe.

Examples:

1. The dog’s leash -- The leash **of the** dog.
2. The teacher’s keys. – The keys **of the** teacher.

Correct the nouns in the following sentences by adding an apostrophe if needed. Check by writing an “of the ...” phrase below each sentence.

1. The trucks taillights are broken.
2. Tuesdays dismissal before Thanksgiving was at noon.
3. Students, please pack your seatmates books.
4. When Dr Smith goes to visit her three cousins, they play her fathers favorite game, Boggle.
5. A roosters crowing could wake the entire neighborhood.

Student Name:

Date:

Reminders:

#1A If a plural noun ends in S, form the possessive case by adding only an apostrophe. If a plural noun does not end in S, form the possessive case by adding an apostrophe and an S.

Incorrect: The actors's scripts were left behind on the table.

Correct: The **actors'** scripts were left behind on the table.

Incorrect: The womens's suits were sent to the dry cleaners.

Correct: The **women's** suits were sent to the dry cleaners.

Now try one of your own:

Wrong:

Right:

CHALLENGE: List 5 others words that are plural nouns that do not end in S:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Student Name:

Date:

#1B Don't use an apostrophe with possessive personal pronouns.

Incorrect: I borrowed her's jacket.

Correct: I borrowed **her** jacket.

Now try one of your own:

Wrong:

Right:

#1C Use an apostrophe with indefinite pronouns to show possession.

Incorrect: Everybodys favorite movie in October was "Thor."

Correct: **Everybody's** favorite movie in October was "Thor."

Incorrect: Someones coat was left in the MPR after lunch.

Correct: **Someone's** coat was left in the MPR after lunch.

Student Name:

Date:

Now try one of your own:

Wrong:

Right:

CONTRACTIONS

This type of apostrophe indicates that letters or parts of a word are missing.

Examples:

it is, it has / it's

he would / he'd

can not / can't

I would / I'd

let us / let's

you will / you'll

will not / won't

was not / wasn't

I am / I'm

do not / don't

1980s / '80s

would have / would've (**not** would of)

Student Name:

Date:

Reminders:

#2A: Be careful to distinguish between it's and its: "Its" is the possessive form of it and does not need an apostrophe. "It's" is the contraction for it is or it has and does need an apostrophe.

Incorrect: The book was old and tattered. It's binding was almost falling off.

Correct: The book was old and tattered. **Its** binding was almost falling off.

Incorrect: Sometimes its profitable to buy old books, even if they are worn and frayed.

Correct: Sometimes **it's** profitable to buy old books, even if they are worn and frayed.

Now try one of your own:

Wrong:

Right:

Student Name:

Date:

PLURALS

The apostrophe and an S is used to form the plurals of numbers, letters, and symbols.

Examples:

Many 80's and 90's were scored on the test.

I'm always happy when the students I teach and tutor make A's.

The student's paper used many &'s instead of the actual word and.

Reminders:

#3A In general, do not use an apostrophe to form a plural noun.

Incorrect: The passenger's showed their tickets to the flight attendant.

Correct: The **passengers** showed their tickets to the flight attendant.

Now try one of your own:

Wrong:

Right:

Student Name:

Date:

Practice for Apostrophes

Practice editing the following sentences. Write a "C" by the sentence if it is correct. Write an "IC" by the sentence if it is incorrect and make the necessary corrections.

1. The plants leaves were all yellow and brown.
2. The clock's hands seemed to move slower as classe's continued.
3. The President-in-Chiefs car was waiting outside the building.
4. I would've gone to the show, but it was playing too late.
5. Jamess' book bag was found in the MPR.
6. I have two boys named Henry in my class. Both Henrys's last names start with different letters.
7. I wish Johns grades were better.
8. Its a beautiful day outside; we should go for a run.
9. My childrens toys are scattered all over the house.
10. The e-mail addresses were all incorrect because they omitted the @s.
11. The man was surprised when the dogs collar broke because it's material was supposed to be quite sturdy.
12. The weatherman said its going to rain.
13. My typewriter key always sticks. It won't type any gs or #s.
14. She wasnt' allowed to go to the party due to her poor grades.
15. The actors wardrobe was very stylish.
16. Everyones stomach was full after potluck in advisory.

Student Name:

Date: